February 14, 1958

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

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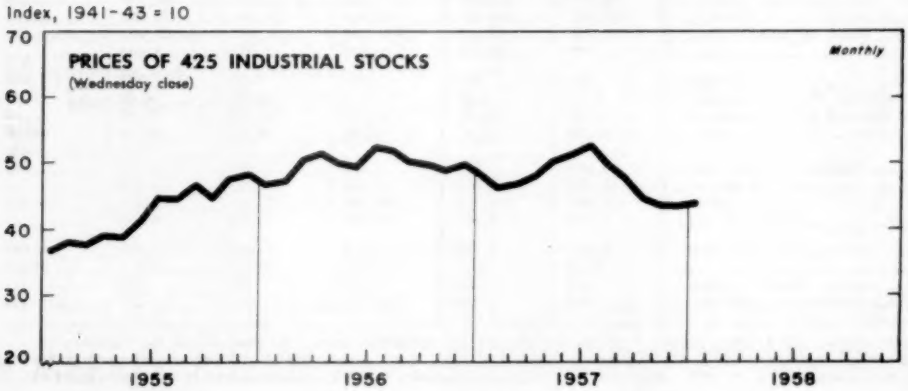
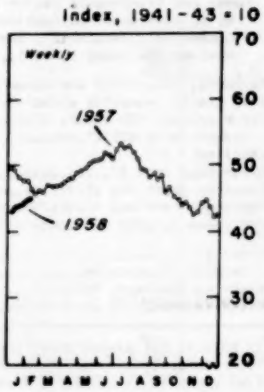
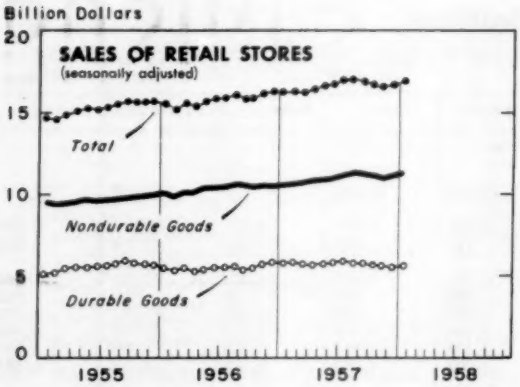
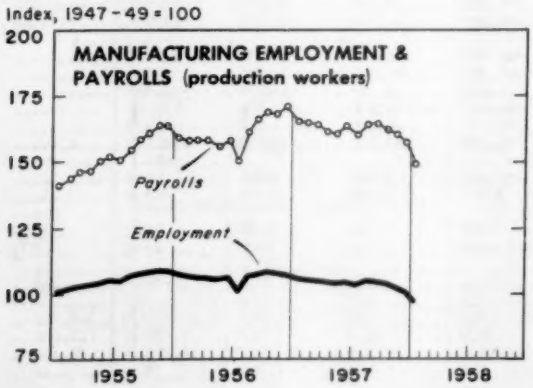
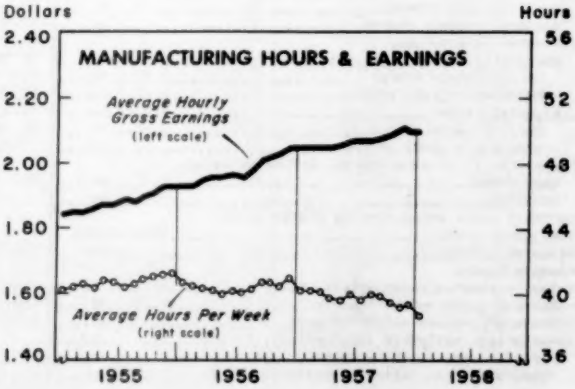
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS











WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1957		1958			
	Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Jan. 18	Jan. 25	Feb. 1	Feb. 8
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*116.9	118.7	118.8	118.7	118.5
Farm products.....do....	.....	*89.3	93.6	94.2	94.3	94.2
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*104.3	108.9	109.1	108.8	108.4
All other.....do....	.....	*125.2	126.0	126.0	125.9	125.7
22 commodities 2/.....do....	90.7	89.7	84.6	85.4	84.4	84.9
Department store sales.....do....	94	101	102	93	92	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,882	1,853	3,035	3,084	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,747	1,722	2,808	2,852	.....	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,607	30,596	31,207	30,878	30,625	30,379
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	25,087	25,146	25,390	24,949	24,632	24,397
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,918	18,920	19,348	19,216	19,089	18,997
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	368	475	566	525	507	410
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	58,076	56,874	56,532	56,556	56,134	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	22,401	22,470	24,500	24,592	24,790	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	85,297	85,069	87,018	86,521	86,187	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	26,101	25,921	25,945	25,861	25,923	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do....	30,260	30,162	31,361	30,857	30,638	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,790	8,770	8,747	8,753	8,744	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	320	287	260	333	326	342
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	4.01	4.01	4.09	4.02	4.00	4.01
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/...1941-43=10..	44.91	43.82	40.99	41.20	41.88	42.19
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	47.74	46.47	43.84	44.03	44.72	45.09
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,463	1,621	1,407	1,381	1,353	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	12,322	12,019	12,400	12,399	12,238	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	163,364	170,120	128,388	125,740	122,714	125,652
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	7,422	7,461	6,925	6,923	6,842	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	2,498	2,485	1,538	1,496	1,459	1,457
Percent of capacity.....	97.6	97.1	#57.0	#55.4	#54.1	#54.0
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	648	665	572	551	550	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	344	344	287	274	279	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning February 10, 1958: Production, 1,449 thous. short tons; operating rate, 53.7 percent. * Monthly index for January 1957. # Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1957 rates which are based on January 1, 1957, annual capacity (133,459,150 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1956	1957				1958
	December	January	October	November	December	January
DOMESTIC TRADE						
All retail stores: 1/						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	19,380	14,740	16,949	r17,133	r19,853	15,515
Durable-goods stores:						
Automotive group.....do....	3,122	2,996	2,945	2,977	r3,009	2,786
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	1,194	776	919	962	r1,144	803
Nondurable-goods stores:						
Apparel group.....do....	1,694	785	1,083	r1,140	r1,790	866
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	632	488	559	532	r690	512
Eating and drinking places.....do....	1,201	1,096	1,263	1,205	r1,247	1,171
Food group.....do....	4,052	3,690	4,102	4,233	r4,258	4,195
Gasoline service stations.....do....	1,182	1,137	1,287	1,262	r1,286	1,233
General-merchandise group.....do....	3,033	1,328	1,838	2,008	r3,095	1,357
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	16,340	16,295	16,714	r16,562	r16,855	16,973
Durable-goods stores.....do....	5,814	5,706	5,612	5,606	r5,588	5,620
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	10,526	10,588	11,102	r10,956	r11,266	11,353
Estimated inventories:						
Unadjusted, total.....do....	22,400	22,890	24,500	r25,280	23,440	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	9,940	10,380	10,380	r11,060	10,900	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	12,460	12,510	14,120	14,220	12,540	.....
Adjusted, total.....do....	23,860	24,010	24,220	r24,330	24,480	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	10,700	10,770	10,950	r11,210	11,420	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	13,160	13,240	13,270	r13,120	13,060	.....
Firms with 11 or more stores, estimated sales:						
Unadjusted.....do....	4,641	2,917	3,597	3,798	4,713	.....
Adjusted.....do....	3,425	3,371	3,458	3,454	3,610	.....
Department store sales, United States total:						
Unadjusted index.....1947-49=100..	240	102	134	r162	r241	102
Adjusted index.....do....	137	133	129	r133	r138	132
Wholesale trade:						
Sales, estimated (unadjusted), total.....bil. of dol..	11.4	11.4	12.3	11.1	10.7	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	4.2	4.3	4.5	3.9	3.7	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	7.2	7.1	7.8	7.1	7.0	.....
Inventories, estimated (unadjusted), total.....do....	12.9	12.9	12.9	13.0	12.5	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	6.3	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.4	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	6.6	6.5	6.3	6.4	6.1	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for January 1958 are advance estimates.

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ITEM	1956	1957				1958
	December	January	October	November	December	January
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES						
Labor force (Bureau of the Census): 1/						
Civilian labor force, total.....thousands..	67,029	65,821	68,513	68,061	67,770	66,732
Employed.....do....	64,550	62,578	66,005	64,873	64,396	62,238
Agricultural employment.....do....	5,110	4,935	6,837	5,817	5,385	4,998
Nonagricultural employment.....do....	59,440	57,643	59,168	59,057	59,012	57,240
Unemployed.....do....	2,479	3,244	2,508	3,188	3,374	4,494
Employees in nonagricultural establishments:						
Total, unadjusted (U. S. Department of Labor).....do....	53,639	51,716	53,043	r52,789	r53,025	p50,965
Manufacturing.....do....	17,159	16,959	16,783	r16,573	r16,325	p15,880
Mining.....do....	837	832	837	829	r826	p813
Contract construction.....do....	2,997	2,667	3,224	3,059	r2,838	p2,570
Transportation and public utilities.....do....	4,194	4,126	4,159	4,123	4,100	p4,002
Wholesale and retail trade.....do....	12,260	11,298	11,664	r11,840	r12,354	p11,497
Finance, insurance, and real estate.....do....	2,308	2,293	2,356	r2,355	r2,348	p2,338
Service and miscellaneous.....do....	6,295	6,239	6,547	r6,512	r6,474	p6,400
Government.....do....	7,589	7,302	7,473	r7,498	r7,760	p7,465
Production workers in manufacturing industries:						
Total.....do....	13,350	13,150	12,893	r12,703	r12,477	p12,048
Durable-goods industries.....do....	7,827	7,740	7,389	r7,305	r7,152	p6,865
Ordnance and accessories.....do....	83	81	70	68	r67	p66
Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....do....	628	594	r623	r602	r580	p550
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	320	312	317	312	r306	p297
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	465	453	456	448	r436	p411
Primary metal industries.....do....	1,135	1,133	1,049	r1,029	r1,006	p958
Fabricated metal products.....do....	908	904	889	r887	r870	p837
Machinery (except electrical).....do....	1,277	1,287	1,166	r1,141	r1,122	p1,112
Electrical machinery.....do....	900	884	869	r852	r826	p796
Transportation equipment.....do....	1,478	1,481	1,321	r1,350	r1,351	p1,270
Instruments and related products.....do....	233	231	223	r222	r219	p212
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	5,523	5,410	5,504	r5,398	r5,325	p5,183
Food and kindred products.....do....	1,076	1,015	1,143	r1,073	r1,030	p974
Tobacco manufactures.....do....	93	88	94	86	r85	p80
Textile-mill products.....do....	948	935	906	893	r884	p856
Apparel and other finished textile products.....do....	1,893	1,076	1,075	r1,071	1,063	p1,043
Paper and allied products.....do....	472	468	470	r469	r466	p455
Printing, publishing, and allied products.....do....	566	557	567	566	565	p558
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	547	549	532	r528	r525	p516
Products of petroleum and coal.....do....	174	172	173	r171	r169	p167
Rubber products.....do....	216	216	210	209	r207	p203
Leather and leather products.....do....	338	336	334	333	r333	p329
Manufacturing production-worker indexes:						
Employment: Unadjusted.....1947-49=100..	107.9	106.3	104.2	r102.7	100.9	p97.4
Adjusted.....do....	107.5	107.0	102.8	r101.8	100.5	p98.1
Payrolls, unadjusted.....do....	171.4	165.5	162.6	r160.9	r157.7	p149.5
Hours and earnings:						
Average weekly hours per worker, all manufacturing...hours..	41.0	40.2	39.5	39.3	r39.4	p38.7
Durable-goods industries.....do....	41.9	40.9	39.8	39.7	r39.7	p39.0
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	39.7	39.1	39.0	r38.8	r39.0	p38.4
Average weekly earnings, all manufacturing.....dollars..	84.05	82.41	82.56	82.92	r82.74	p81.27
Durable-goods industries.....do....	91.34	89.16	88.75	88.93	r88.93	p87.36
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	73.84	72.73	74.10	r74.50	r74.88	p73.73
Average hourly earnings, all manufacturing.....do....	2.05	2.05	2.09	2.11	r2.10	p2.10
Durable-goods industries.....do....	2.18	2.18	2.23	2.24	2.24	p2.24
Ordnance and accessories.....do....	2.27	2.28	2.38	r2.40	r2.42	p2.41
Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....do....	1.74	1.72	1.84	r1.84	r1.82	p1.78
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	1.73	1.72	1.77	1.75	r1.77	p1.76
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	2.01	2.02	2.09	2.10	r2.09	p2.09
Primary metal industries.....do....	2.45	2.47	2.55	2.55	r2.55	p2.54
Fabricated metal products.....do....	2.14	2.13	2.22	2.23	r2.21	p2.22
Machinery (except electrical).....do....	2.27	2.27	2.33	2.34	2.34	p2.35
Electrical machinery.....do....	2.05	2.05	2.08	2.10	r2.11	p2.12
Transportation equipment.....do....	2.43	2.38	2.47	2.50	r2.48	p2.47
Instruments and related products.....do....	2.07	2.08	2.14	2.14	2.15	p2.15
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	1.86	1.86	1.90	1.92	1.92	p1.92
Food and kindred products.....do....	1.90	1.92	1.94	1.96	r1.98	p2.00
Tobacco manufactures.....do....	1.48	1.49	1.47	r1.55	1.57	p1.58
Textile-mill products.....do....	1.50	1.50	1.51	1.51	1.50	p1.50
Apparel and other finished textile products.....do....	1.50	1.49	1.49	1.50	r1.49	p1.50
Paper and allied products.....do....	1.99	1.99	2.08	2.08	2.08	p2.08
Printing, publishing, and allied industries.....do....	2.46	2.46	2.53	2.53	2.55	p2.55
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	2.16	2.16	2.24	2.26	r2.26	p2.27
Products of petroleum and coal.....do....	2.57	2.59	2.71	2.73	r2.72	p2.71
Rubber products.....do....	2.24	2.23	2.32	2.33	r2.31	p2.31
Leather and leather products.....do....	1.52	1.52	1.55	1.57	r1.55	p1.56
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS						
Operations on scheduled airlines:						
Miles flown, revenue.....thousands..	*55,165	**51,671	61,398	57,523	.....	.....
Express and freight ton-miles flown.....do....	*25,111	**22,803	24,081	20,686	.....	.....
Mail ton-miles flown.....do....	*7,892	**7,522	8,215	7,762	.....	.....
Passengers originated, revenue.....do....	*3,421	**3,040	3,483	3,114	.....	.....
Passenger-miles flown, revenue.....millions..	*1,879	**1,656	2,015	1,790	.....	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. * Data are for October 1956. ** Data are for November 1956. 1/ Estimates beginning January 1957 reflect certain changes made in the definitions for employment and unemployment, etc. Figures for December 1957, comparable with data through December 1956, in order as above (thous.): 67,792; 64,652; 5,391; 59,262; 3,140.

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ITEM	1956	1957				1958
	December	January	October	November	December	January
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS -- Continued						
Freight carloadings (A.A.R.): 1/						
Total cars.....thousands..	2,641	2,565	2,920	3,223	2,221	2,164
Coal.....do....	532	528	543	635	461	457
Coke.....do....	52	52	40	47	33	28
Forest products.....do....	149	155	148	175	132	136
Grain and grain products.....do....	195	201	211	254	213	208
Livestock.....do....	24	24	49	47	21	21
Ore.....do....	118	81	289	191	84	63
Merchandise, l.c.l.....do....	205	200	220	249	173	166
Miscellaneous.....do....	1,365	1,324	1,419	1,626	1,123	1,086
Freight-car surplus and shortage, daily average:						
Car surplus, total.....number..	6,637	13,331	12,781	19,965	54,072	105,263
Box cars.....do....	1,052	5,776	5,913	9,275	18,237	35,032
Gondolas and open hoppers.....do....	191	326	133	2,376	23,057	52,482
Car shortage, total.....do....	3,507	1,646	1,480	245	29	46
Box cars.....do....	1,024	r535	518	127	23	18
Gondolas and open hoppers.....do....	2,408	r992	903	92	0	1
LUMBER AND MANUFACTURES						
Lumber (National Lumber Manufacturers Association):						
Production, total.....mil. of bd. ft..	2,520	2,635	3,024	2,493	2,192	.....
Softwoods.....do....	2,002	2,106	2,506	2,035	1,801	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	2,375	2,543	3,091	2,473	2,259	.....
Softwoods.....do....	1,898	2,064	2,543	1,964	1,780	.....
Stocks (gross), mill, end of month, total.....do....	9,777	9,871	9,611	9,602	9,538	.....
Softwoods.....do....	6,117	6,161	5,849	5,892	5,916	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district -- U. S. and Canadian ores):						
Consumption by furnaces.....thous. of long tons..	7,840	7,892	6,538	5,741	4,989	.....
Stocks, end of month, total.....do....	45,508	37,484	54,844	54,532	49,668	.....
At furnaces.....do....	41,231	33,580	50,174	49,894	45,300	.....
On Lake Erie docks.....do....	4,277	3,905	4,669	4,638	4,368	.....
PULP, PAPER, AND PRINTING						
Wood pulp:						
Production, total, all grades.....thous. of short tons..	1,672.6	1,904.6	1,961.1	r1,850.6	1,624.8	.....
Dissolving and special alpha.....do....	72.7	82.6	91.4	87.0	72.1	.....
Sulfate.....do....	920.0	1,061.0	1,086.9	1,037.3	882.4	.....
Sulfite.....do....	200.8	226.9	234.3	208.8	195.9	.....
Groundwood.....do....	231.5	262.6	246.2	r237.0	225.9	.....
Defibrated or exploded.....do....	78.0	90.1	106.5	94.0	83.0	.....
Soda, semichemical, screenings, damaged, etc.....do....	169.4	181.5	195.8	r186.5	165.7	.....
Stocks, end of month, total, all mills.....do....	912.0	884.0	880.3	r904.9	890.5	.....
Pulp mills.....do....	189.5	208.8	217.6	r239.9	220.6	.....
Paper and board mills.....do....	617.1	575.3	564.3	561.5	568.8	.....
Nonpaper mills.....do....	105.4	100.0	98.5	103.5	101.1	.....
All paper and board mills, production:						
Paper and board, total.....do....	r2,380	2,672	2,796	r2,543	2,305	.....
Paper.....do....	r1,097	1,217	1,201	r1,108	1,054	.....
Paperboard.....do....	r1,088	1,211	1,304	1,194	1,039	.....
Wet-machine board.....do....	12	13	13	12	13	.....
Construction paper and board.....do....	184	231	277	r228	199	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for November cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.
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